

not necessarily true due to the development of translabyrinthine techniques in removing such tumors and the preservation of the function of the VIIIth nerve.

The number of divergent opinions in the preceding paragraphs is certainly meager and is especially significant when one considers the distance separating England from this country, and more important, the time lag that occurs from the time of the composition of the text to the time of review. I can, therefore, recommend this book as the latest comprehensive review of anatomy, physiology and treatment of otologic problems.

F. H. LINTHICUM, JR., M.D.

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GASTRIC SURGERY—Errors, Safeguards, and Management of Malfunction Syndromes—Moses E. Steinberg, M.S., M.D., Research Associate in Physiology, University of Oregon Medical School; Attending Surgeon, Emanuel Hospital; formerly Senior on the Surgical Service of U. S. Public Health Hospital and Consultant Surgeon to the Veterans Bureau, Portland, Oregon. Appleton-Century-Crofts, Division of Meredith Publishing Company, 440 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y., 1963. 342 pages, \$12.95.

This excellent monograph describes the development of gastric surgery for duodenal and gastric ulcer, the nature and causes of the malfunction complex of the operated stomach, the author's method of gastroenteric anastomosis both as primary and remedial operation for ulcer, and lastly an evaluation of surgical procedures for benign ulcer disease.

The great merit of the book lies in its clear expression of the views and experiences of a lifelong student, researcher, and operating surgeon. The few well chosen epigrams further reveal the author as a man of broad culture. Any minor defects are erased by the overall excellence of the book. It is not primarily a reference book but will find wide use as such in the limited field discussed. The author makes no claim to be all inclusive, but in any discussion of benign ulcer the names of Wangenstein and Connell should be included in the bibliography, the latter not because of the stitch that bears his name but rather because of his early emphasis on the need for excising much of the acid bearing area of the stomach. Although Connell's method of fundusectomy was not accepted, the author pictures a partial fundusectomy with his own type of re-anastomosis (page 196).

The core of the author's work, to which his broad knowledge of the history of gastric surgery, experimental work, and his surgical experience lead him, is his own method of gastroenteric anastomosis following resection in which a jejunal pouch or substitute reservoir is formed with a relatively small gastrojejunal stoma and gastrojejunal "valve" or spur. In his hands the operation has been admirably successful both as a primary procedure and as a secondary one for malfunction. He discusses his own relatively few failures in both instances with refreshing candor. In the reviewer's opinion Steinberg's operation will not and should not be generally adopted as a primary procedure and Steinberg does not urge it as such for the general surgeon. As a secondary operation for postoperative malfunction, it will prove useful at times for the experienced gastric surgeon.

An unusual feature in such a work is the presentation of 61 case histories. The essential points are briefly stated with frequent pertinent descriptions of symptoms in the patient's own words. The clarity and brevity of these reports is obviously the result of countless hours of thoughtful interviews.

The book is recommended to surgical residents and established surgeons alike for its thought provoking contents. The historical section alone with the translations of Bill-

roth's, Pean's, and Wolfer's original papers should fascinate every one whose curiosity extends even slightly beyond the affairs of the moment.

GUNTHER W. NAGEL, M.D.

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A DOZEN DOCTORS—Autobiographical Sketches—Edited by Dwight J. Ingle. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago & London, 1963. 287 pages, \$5.50.

This is a collection of twelve autobiographical sketches by great medical teachers. Originally published in the journal "Perspectives in Biology and Medicine" they have been collected in one volume by Dwight Ingle. They are highlights of contemporary medical history.

Five of the authors became Nobel laureates. Sir Henry Dale and Otto Loewe received their prize together for their discoveries relating to the chemical transmission of nerve impulses. Sir Henry is the acknowledged dean of experimental medicine in Great Britain. His autobiography traces his work through his various appointments and interests. Otto Loewe was a research pharmacologist and received his early training in Europe and worked there until World War II forced him to relocate at the New York University College of Medicine.

Another Nobel prize winner, for discoveries relating to the chemical transmission of nerve impulses, was W. R. Hess who was also interested in the biological foundations of psychology and was Chairman of the Physiology Department at the University of Zurich.

In 1943 George von Hevesy received the Nobel Prize for his work on the use of isotopes as tracer elements in research on chemical processes. He was a physicist and the excitement of the discovery of isotopes is fascinating as he describes step-by-step the progression of his studies.

George Whipple shared his award with two others in 1944 for their discoveries concerning liver therapy in the anemias. He also helped to organize and establish the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1921 and has been associated with it since that time.

Among the other authors are Frank Hartman, a physiologist interested in the study of the adrenals; Esmond Long who became interested in tuberculosis when he contracted it as a young man; and Russell Wilder from the Mayo Clinic whose particular forte was diabetes.

Judson Herrick traces his career from his early interest in zoology and comparative neurology to his post as Professor of Neurology at the University of Chicago. He wrote extensively on psychology and philosophy. Leo Loeb directed his talents to the study of the growth processes of tumors and the relationship of sex hormones to carcinoma.

Irvine McQuarrie was an outstanding pediatrician, administrator, and teacher. James Means was Chief of Medical Services at Massachusetts General Hospital for many years. He was regarded as an able administrator, and espoused "better medical care for the American public at a price they can afford."

Great strides have been made in medical knowledge in this century because of the inspired work of many, including the twelve men covered in this volume. Some of their enthusiasm and sense of accomplishment is evident in these pages. They were all in turn influenced by great teachers and they have kept the chain intact by stimulating their own colleagues and pupils.

The essays are enlivened by personal recollections and anecdotes, revealing different sides of their personalities.

A fine addition to medical history and to the libraries of all research fellows and teachers.

M. E. MOTTRAM, M.D.